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Whickham
Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year ending 31st December,

1959





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CONTENTS

Foreword	2
A. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area	...	4
B. General Provisions of Health Services in the Area	...	9
C. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Disease		11
D. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area	... ..	18
E. Housing and Housing Management	... ..	22
F. Inspection and Supervision of Food	25
Public Health Officers of the Authority	30

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Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Whickham,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Whickham Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my Annual Report for the year 1959.

The population of the district continues to increase. It has risen from 23,116 in 1951, to 24,390 at mid-year 1959. This means an increase of 1,274 in eight years or an average of 159 per annum. The difference between mid-year 1958 and mid-year 1959 was 230 of which 142 are accounted for by natural increase. The remaining 88 can only be accounted for by immigration.

Total births rose from 391 in 1958 to 398 in 1959, the respective Crude Birth Rates being 16.18 and 16.58. Deaths fell from 278 in 1958 to 256 in 1959, the respective rates being 12.08 and 10.66.

The principal vital statistics show little change except for the Infantile Mortality which has approximately doubled. The cause of most of these infant deaths (which are tabulated in the report) are beyond the scope of the Health Department.

Among the various causes of death tabulated in the report both cancer of the lung and bronchitis show a decrease. Lung cancer fell from 13 (1958) to 5 (1959) and bronchitis from 26 (1958) to 10 (1959). In both cases males show a marked predominance over females. The commonest cause of death was once again cardio-vascular disease with a total of 128 cases (139 in 1958).

Of the notifiable diseases, scarlet fever increased from 8 in 1958 to 77 in 1959 and the usual bi-annual epidemic of measles occurred with 462 cases. All other infectious diseases declined of which sonnei dysentery was most notable, with a decline from 120 in 1958 to 5 in 1959. 1959 is the eleventh year in which diphtheria has been absent from our notification register. Immunisation against whooping cough is now being carried out under the auspices of Durham County Council and this may be the reason for the decreased incidence of this disease which fell from 141 in 1958 to 26 in 1959.

Satisfactory progress was maintained with regard to housing. A further 77 families were re-housed from Clearance Areas which meant that the original programme was completed. It can be said that except for a small number of houses slum clearance ceases to be a problem in this Area.

During the year the amount of deposit from the polluted atmosphere has declined. It is hoped that along with adjacent Local Authorities advantage of the powers given in the Clean Air Act will be taken to institute Smoke Control Areas. It is now becoming realised that because an Area is to be Smoke Controlled that demand for coal will not necessarily decrease, as the majority of smokeless fuels are derived from coal.

Food premises continued to be systematically inspected and one is aware of the efforts of most food traders to ensure that the Food Hygiene Regulations are being observed.

During 1959 a notable step forward occurred in Housing development with the passing of the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, the Department is responsible for the provisions dealing with Standard Grants. This means that grants can be given to owners of property for providing Standard Amenities, such as indoor toilets, hot water supply, wash-hand basins, baths and food storing facilities. Apart from providing 20th Century necessities the Act will also help to avoid certain houses becoming slum dwellings of the future.

Yet again I have to record the support of the Health Committee of your Council and that of Durham County Council in various ways. In conclusion, I have to mention the continued good work done by the Health Department Staff which made the report possible and in the compilation of which they have given valuable assistance.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres—6,213.

Population—1951 Census : 23,116.

Population—Registrar General's estimate for mid-1959 : 24,390.

Number of inhabited houses :

Council. 2,408 ; Others, 5,354 ; Total, 7,762.

Number of Premises other than houses : 686.

Rateable Value : £304,093.

Sum represented by a penny rate : £1,192.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE AREA

The boundaries remain as formerly, i.e., to the North the River Tyne ; to the West, the River Derwent ; to the East, the County Borough of Gateshead and Rural District of Chester-le-Street ; to the South, the Stanley Urban District. The Area is divided into four Wards.

1—**Dunston** : This Ward has the largest population of the District and is both residential and industrial. The population finds its employment at Flour Mills, Soap Works, Paint Manufacture, Pre-Cast Concrete Manufacture, Saw Mills and in the Electricity Generating Station.

2—**Swalwell** : The chief industries are Engineering, Foundry Work, Brick Making, and Metal Working. A screening plant used in connection with open-cast coal workings is situated in the Northerly part of the Ward.

3—**Whickham** : Is semi-rural in character, and is essentially residential. The population finds its employment outside the Ward.

4—Marley Hill : This Ward is very scattered and rural. Coal Mining is the only industry; there are four collieries in the Ward.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The number of Births registered was 398 and the natural increase of population (i.e., excess of births over deaths) 142.

There were 8 still-births.

The Crude Birth Rate was 16.58 per 1,000 population compared with 16.18 for 1958. Comparison tables are given:—

Live Births - Whickham U.D. Area.						
	1959			1958		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	189	200	389	203	177	380
Illegitimate	4	5	9	7	4	11
Total	193	205	398	210	181	391
Birth Rate	16.58 per 1,000 population			16.18 per 1,000 population		

Still Births - Whickham U.D. Area.						
	1959			1958		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	5	8	4	6	10
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	3	5	8	4	6	10
Still Birth Rate	20.1 per 1,000 Total Births			24.9 per 1,000 Total Births		

Deaths

The total number of deaths during 1959 was 256 and the Crude Death Rate 10.66 as compared with 12.08 for 1958.

Infantile Mortality

There were 8 infantile deaths recorded (4 male and 4 female) giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 20.1 as compared with 10.2 last year.

The causes of death of infants under one year were as follows:—

			M	F
Broncho Pneumonia	...	...	2	1
Spina Bifidia	...	...	1	—
Congenital Deformity	...	...	—	1
Prematurity	...	...	1	—
Respiratory Obstruction	...	...	—	1
Intracranial Haemorrhages	...	...	—	1
			—	—
			4	4
			—	—

Maternal Mortality

No maternal deaths were recorded, giving a maternal mortality rate of 0.00 as compared with a 0.00 for 1958. The figure for England and Wales for the year 1958 was 0.43 and for Durham County 0.67.

1959. Births and Deaths - Whickham - compared with Country generally. Comparability factors:—Births 0.98; Deaths 1.25.

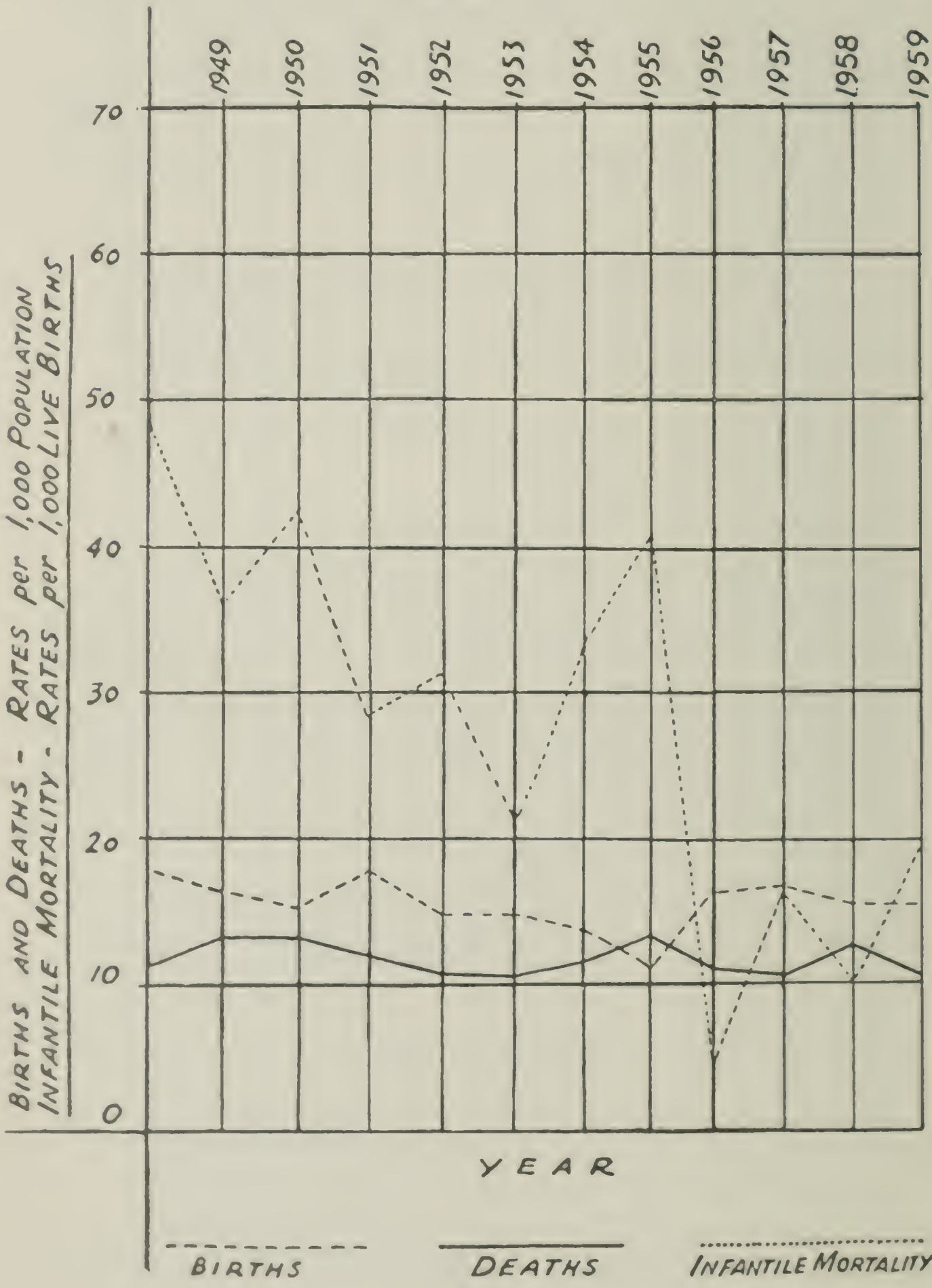
Births		Whickh'm	County Durham	England and Wales
	Live Births	16.24	18.00	16.50
	Still Births	19.69	23.50	20.70

Deaths:		Whickham	County Durham	England and Wales
	Deaths from all causes per 1,000 population ...	13.32	10.90	11.60
	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	25.12	27.00	22.00

**THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF
DEATH DURING 1959.**

CAUSES OF DEATH					MALES	FEMALES
1	Tuberculosis (Respiratory)				4	1
2	Tuberculosis (Other)				—	—
3	Syphilitic Disease				—	1
4	Diphtheria				—	—
5	Whooping Cough				—	—
6	Meningo Coccoal Infection				—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis				—	—
8	Measles				—	—
9	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ..				—	—
10	Malignant Neoplasm Stomach				5	3
11	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ...				4	1
12	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast				—	5
13	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus				—	3
14	Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms				13	8
15	Leukaemia and Aleukaemia... ..				1	1
16	Diabetes				1	1
17	Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System				29	20
18	Coronary Disease. Angina				17	18
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease ..				4	3
20	Other Heart Diseases				11	19
21	Other Circulatory Diseases				4	3
22	Influenza				1	1
23	Pneumonia				4	5
24	Bronchitis				9	1
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System ..				—	3
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum				4	—
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..				—	1
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis				1	1
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate				2	—
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion ..				—	1
31	Congenital Malformations				2	4
32	Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases .				13	14
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents				3	—
34	All Other Accidents				1	2
35	Suicide				3	—
36	Homicide and Operations of War				—	—
					136	120

GRAPH SHOWING RISE AND FALL IN BIRTH AND
DEATH RATES AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES
1949 - 1959



SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities.

All specimens for bacteriological examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratories, Newcastle upon Tyne. This Government service is free of cost to practitioners and the Council.

Ambulance Facilities.

Ambulance services are provided by the Durham County Council. Included in this service is the transport of cases of infectious disease to Sheriff Hill Isolation Hospital.

Nursing in the Home.

The administration of District Nursing comes within the province of the Durham County Council. The Home Help Service is also available and there is a constant demand for assistance in view of difficulty in obtaining admission of cases of chronic illnesses to hospital at the present time.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Facilities for the treatment of minor ailments in school children together with sun-ray, maternity and child welfare and dental treatment, are made available by Durham County Council at various centres within or adjacent to the area.

Hospital Accommodation.

(a) **Infectious Diseases.** All cases requiring isolation are referred to Sheriff Hill Isolation Hospital.

(b) **Tuberculosis.** Provision is made for the hospital treatment of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in various sanatoria within the Counties of Durham and Northumberland. There is also a Chest Clinic situated at Whickham for the supervision of domiciliary cases. Norman's Riding Infectious Diseases Hospital is now used as a Sanatorium for males and females. At the end of the year persons having pulmonary tuberculosis were being admitted to Sanatoria very shortly after diagnosis was established. This speedy primary treatment gives patients a much greater expectation of recovery and complete cure.

(c) **General.** The Royal Victoria Infirmary and the General Hospital, Newcastle, and the Bensham and Queen Elizabeth Hospitals, Gateshead, receive the majority of medical and surgical cases from the district. A convalescent home at Wylam is available for patients after hospital treatment.

Provision for the treatment of minor surgical cases is also available at the District War Memorial Cottage Hospital.

(d) **Midwifery and Gynaecology.** Of the midwifery and gynaecological cases sent to hospital, most find their way to the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle, the Bensham Hospital, Gateshead, or the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead.

(e) **Venereal Disease.** Patients may be referred by their doctors to the Venereal Disease Clinic at the General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

SECTION C

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The number of cases of infectious disease notified during the year was 582, as compared with 338 in 1958. The details were as follows:—

DISEASE	No. OF CASES		REMARKS
	1959	1958	
Scarlet Fever	77	8	
Whooping Cough	26	141	
Diphtheria	—	—	
Measles	462	54	
Acute Pneumonia	5	10	
Meningo-coccal Infection	1	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	
Dysentery	5	120	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	4	
Smallpox	—	—	
Para-typhoid fevers	—	—	
Enteric Fever	—	—	
Food poisoning	2	—	
Erysipelas	2	1	
Chicken Pox	—	—	
Malaria	—	—	
Totals	582	338	

Incidence of Scarlet Fever and Tuberculosis in the Whickham Area.

A graph is given on page 17 showing the incidence of these two diseases over the past ten years.

Diphtheria.

For the eleventh year in succession not a single case of this disease occurred in the district.

Scarlet Fever.

The policy of home treatment of this disease has continued where satisfactory isolation arrangements were possible. When hospital isolation has been considered necessary it has always been possible to secure the patient's admission to Sheriff Hill Hospital.

Poliomyelitis.

There were no cases notified during the year.

The number of persons vaccinated were as follows:—

Poliomyelitis Vaccination Whickham Area

People with one injection at the end of 1959:—

Male	...	...	40
Female	...	...	28
			—
Total	...	...	68
			—

People with two injections at the end of 1959:—

Male	...	...	1010
Female	...	...	1070
			—
Total	...	...	2080
			—

People with three injections at the end of 1959:—

Male	...	...	350
Female	...	...	370
			—
Total	...	...	720
			—

Amount of vaccine issued to General Practitioners during 1959:—

4,551 c.c.

Dysentery.

5 cases were notified as against 120 in 1958. All were of the mild Sonnei type.. A close check was kept on each case and contact.

Food Poisoning.

There were two notified cases during the year.

Salmonella Limete and Salmonella Typhi-murium were the causative organisms. Suitable investigations were carried out.

Notifications of Infectious Diseases during 1959.

DISEASE	Total Cases notified	AGE GROUPS.							Cases admitted to hospital
		Under 1 year	1 - 2 years	3 - 4 years	5 - 9 years	10 - 14 years	15 - 24 years	25 and over	
Scarlet Fever	77		6	15	47	9			
Whooping Cough	26	4	5	8	8	1			
Acute Poliomyelitis... ..									
Measles	462	11	113	139	196	2		1	
Diphtheria									
Chicken Pox									
Totals	565	15	124	162	251	12		1	

Notifications of Infectious Diseases during 1959.

DISEASE	Total Cases Notified	Un'r 5	5-14	15-44	45-64	65 & over	Age un- kn'n	Cases admitted to Hos.
Acute Pneumonia ...	5	1		1	1	2		
Dysentery ...	5	1	2	1	1			
Smallpox ...								
Acute Encephalitis ...								
Enteric or Typhoid Fever								
Paratyphoid Fevers...								
Erysipelas ...	2					2		
Meningococcal Infection	1	1						
Food Poisoning ...	2	2						
Puerperal Infection	2			2				
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...								
Malaria ...								
Totals	17	5	2	4	2	4		

Notifications of Infectious Diseases during 1959.

Diseases.	MONTHS.												Totals	WARDS			
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	October	Nov'ber	Dec'ber		Dunston	Whick'm	Swalwell	Mar. Hill
Scarlet Fever ...		1		2	4	9	3	4	4	4	5	41	77	71	6		
Whooping Cough ...	7		5	5	2	1	3	1			1	1	26	14	6	4	2
Acute Poliomyelitis																	
Measles ...	37	71	131	96	36	19	59	7	4	1	1		462	212	201	43	6
Diphtheria ...																	
Chicken Pox ...																	
Acute Pneumonia ..		1			2					1		1	5	5			
Dysentery ...				1		2		1		1			5	4		1	
Smallpox ...																	
Acute Encephalitis ..																	
Enteric or Typhoid F																	
Paratyphoid Fevers..																	
Erysipelas ...			1									1	2	1	1		
Meningococcal Inf'n	1												1		1		
Food Poisoning ..									1	1			2	1	1		
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	1								1				2	2			
Ophthalmia Neon'm																	
Malaria ...																	
Totals	46	73	137	104	44	31	65	13	10	8	7	44	582	310	216	48	8

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year 13 new cases of respiratory tuberculosis and 4 of non-respiratory tuberculosis were notified. 7 respiratory cases were transferred into the district. The detailed figures are tabulated in Tables A and B.

It was not necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, with regard to the employment of tuberculosis persons in dairies, etc. nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Table A. Tuberculosis. Cases notified during 1959

	Total	Dunston	Whic'ham	Swalwell	Mar. Hill
Respiratory	13	6	3	2	2
Non-Respiratory	4	2	1	1	—
Total 1959	17	8	4	3	2
Total 1958	19	12	2	3	2

Table B. New Cases (including inward Transfers) and Mortality during 1959

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonnry		Non-pulm'ary		Pulmonary		Non pulm'ary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 yr.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
25—35	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	1	3	1	—	1	—	—	—
45—55	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	11	9	3	1	2	1	—	—

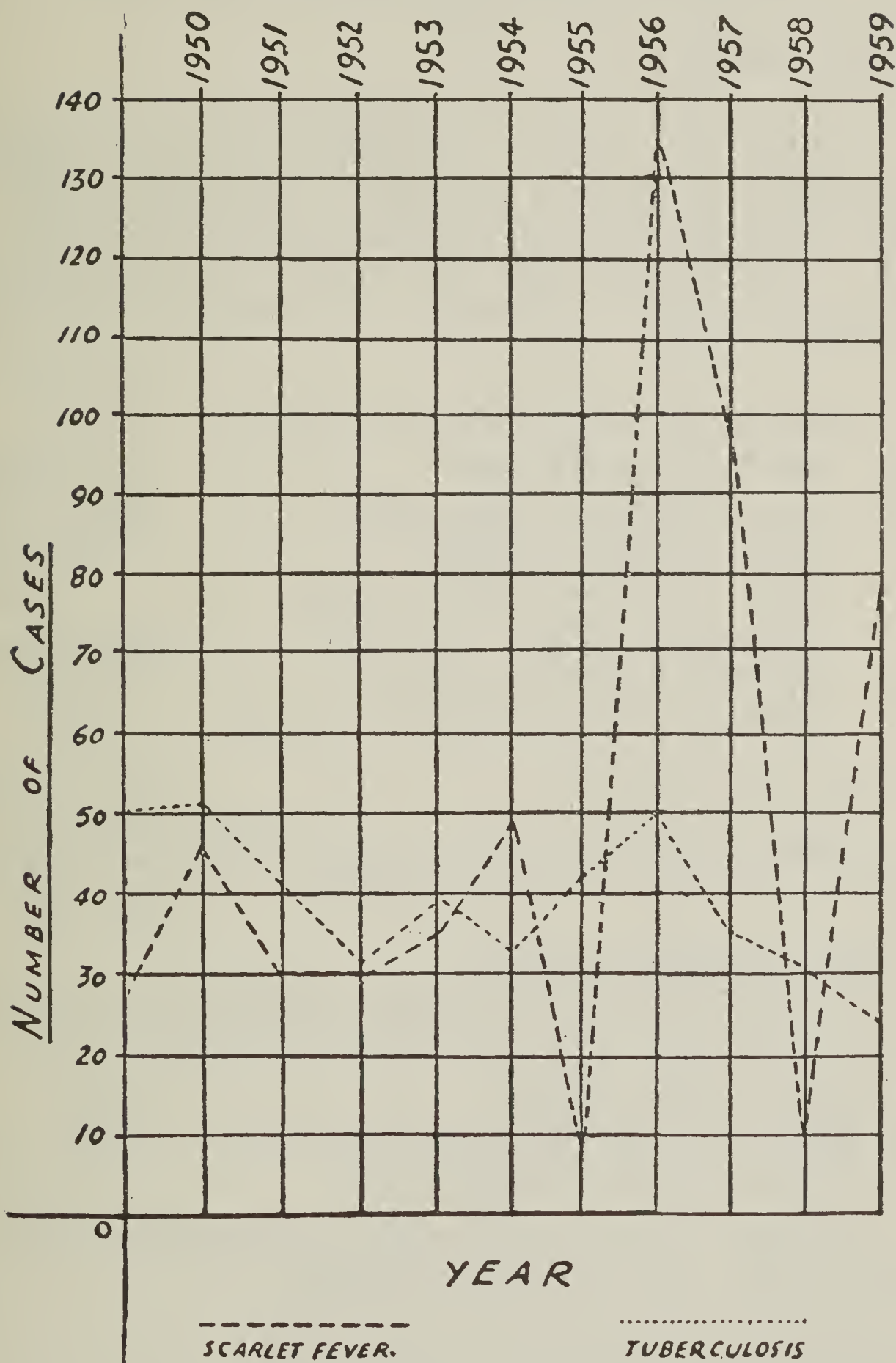
Table C

Sex	No. of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at commence- ment of year.		No. of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at end of year 1959	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pul- monary	Pulmonary	Non-Pul- monary
Male ...	99	7	98	10
Female ...	110	14	94	15
Totals	209	21	192	25

Table D---Removals from the Register during 1959.

Reasons.	Totals	Pulmonary		Non-Pul- monary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.
Died	3	2	1	—	—
Diagnosis not confirmed	2	1	1	—	—
Removed from district ..	13	6	7	—	—
Recovered	19	8	11	—	—
Totals	37	17	20	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE WHICKHAM
URBAN DISTRICT AREA



SECTION D

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1—Water Supply.

The Dunston, Swalwell and greater part of Whickham Wards are supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, and Marley Hill Ward by the Durham County Water Board. Both supplies have proved to be of satisfactory quality and quantity. 4 samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year, by the Department. All proved to be of good wholesome quality.

The following additional details are given:—

Extension to water mains	... ..	1716 yards
Houses supplied by direct mains	...	7749
Houses supplied by standpipe	... ..	9
Houses supplied by wells and springs	...	4
Population supplied by direct main	...	24345
Population supplied by standpipe	...	27
Population supplied by wells and springs		14

2—Closet Accommodation.

At the end of the year there were in the area, 8,266 water closets. 1 ash closet and 55 ashpit privies.

3—Public Cleansing and Salvage.

The following information relating to Public Cleansing has been supplied by the Senior Public Health Inspector:—

Tons of refuse collected	... ..	16,000
Weight (cwt.s.) per 1,000 population per day		36.53
Number of separate premises served	...	8,448

All refuse is disposed of by tipping at Sunnyside, Byermoor and Swalwell. The average haul is 2 miles.

Collections are made at least once weekly.

**Summary of work done in the Public Health Inspector's
Department during 1959.**

	No. of Inspect- ions	No. of Informal Notices Served	No. of Statutory Notices Served	Defects Remedied after Notice
Housing:—				
Public Health and Housing Acts	2471	111	4	212
Overcrowding	7	—	—	1
Sanitary Conveniences:—				
Insufficient	4	3	—	—
Defective	11	6	—	5
Drainage	87	20	—	21
Water Supply	41	10	—	13
Food Premises	282	6	—	8
Shops Act	47	—	—	—
Dairies	58	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses:—				
Public	—	—	—	—
Private	118	—	—	—
Tents, Vans, etc.	39	—	—	—
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—
Factories and Workplaces ..	21	2	—	—
Keeping of Animals	10	2	—	—
Insanitary Ashpits & Receptacles	30	7	—	12
Offensive Accumulations ...	22	3	—	3
Smoke Nuisances Abatement ...	423	—	—	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	28	1	—	1
Dirty or Verminous Premises ...	21	6	—	5
Refuse Collection	61	2	—	2
Rent Act	18	—	—	—
Infectious Diseases	101	—	—	—
House Purch. & Housing Act, 1959	53	—	—	—
Total	3953	179	4	283

Moveable Dwellings.

No new licences were issued during the year.

Offensive Trades.

No new trades have been established. No complaints have been received in regard to the offensive trades established, i.e., one soap boiling works and one fat and tallow melting works.

Shops Act, 1950.

The Council is a Shops Act Authority, and the following information has been supplied by the Shops Inspector.

Forty-seven visits were made for the purposes of the Act.

The statutory closing hours are observed, the majority of shops closing at considerably earlier hours.

Factories.

Twenty-one inspections were made during the year. The following table gives the numbers of factories of various classes which are on the Council's Register.

PREMISES	NUMBER OF			
	Premises on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories with Mechanical power ...	77	19	2	—
2. Factories without Mechanical power ...	3	—	—	1
3. Other premises under the Act, including works building and engineering construction, but not including out-workers premises	13	2	—	—
TOTAL	93	21	2	—

Defects found, 3. Defects remedied, 2.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Rodent Control.

Number of properties in area 8448							
Number of properties inspected 127							
Number of properties inspected found to be infested with:—							
(a) Rats, major Nil							
minor 65							
(b) Mice 34							
	Private Houses	Council Houses	Schools	Hospitals	Farms	Business Premises	Refuse Tips
Rats	27	—	—	1	2	27	8
Mice	25	—	2	3	—	4	—
	52	—	2	4	2	31	8

The above infestations were all treated by the Rodent Operative. The cost was recovered from the owner or occupier as applicable. A standard charge of 3/0 was made in the case of treatments for mice in domestic premises.

Sewers.

The sewers were treated twice during the year in April and October.

	April	October
Number of manholes treated ...	96	88

A test bait on 21 manholes was also carried out in July.

A thorough check was also made on all sewer outfalls in the area.

Insect Pest Control

An insecticidal powder is issued to householders, free of charge, to deal with minor infestations, mainly of cockroaches. Remedial measures are taken by this department in cases of difficulty.

Infestations dealt with during the year were:—

	Private Houses	Council Houses	Schools	Hospitals	Business Premises
Cockroach ...	4	1	—	1	1
Flea ...	12	1	—	1	3
Wasp ...	10	—	—	—	—
Woodworm ...	17	1	—	—	—
Ants ...	2	—	—	—	—

SECTION E

HOUSING AND HOUSING MANAGEMENT

The undermentioned information has been supplied by the Senior Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer.

Number of houses built in the Area during 1959:—

Houses built by private enterprise 120

Permanent houses built by Whickham U.D.C. 124

Total ... 244

Comparative figures—1950 to 1959.

Houses Built	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	Total
Whickham U.D.C.	68	72	54	112	99	84	105	9	129	124	856
Private Enterprise	9	15	17	26	142	214	122	179	145	120	989
Total	77	87	71	138	241	298	227	188	274	244	1845

Allocations.

During the year 124 new houses were let and in all 349 tenancies were allocated.

Comparative Figures, 1956 - 1959.

Council Houses	1956	1957	1958	1959
New Houses Let ...	111	9	129	124
Tenancies Allocated	270	160	291	349

Of the 349 tenancies allocated, 161 were exchanges or transfers, so that the number of families allocated Council Houses was 188 and of these 77 were allocated to families in Clearance Areas and a further 8 to families in individual unfit houses.

I—Summary of Allocations.

Table I.

Slum Clearance	Individual Unfit	General Need	Total
77	8	103	188

Table II. Main Reasons for General Need Allocations.

Ill Health	Abatement of Overcrowding	Homeless Families	Total
18	29	56	103

Table III. Size of House Allocated.

3 roomed	4 roomed	5 roomed	Single person	Aged Person	Total
97	46	13	8	24	188

Table IV. The Result of Tenancy Transfers.

Abating Under/Occupation	Abating Overcrowding	Moving to a Different Locality	Domestic Reasons	Total
53	5	20	27	105

Table V. Summary of Exchanges.

Abating Under Occup'n	Abating Overcrowding	Exchanges with Private Houses	Moved for Cheaper Rent	Convenient Locality	Total
12	12	2	9	21	56

2—Sub-Tenants.

Are only allowed by permission of the Council. They are usually granted for 6 months and must be renewed thereafter. Except in certain cases an extra 5/- is payable.

Applications Considered.

Application	Granted	Refused	Total
New Cases	... 59	11	70
Renewals	... 18	Nil	18

3—Eviction Orders.

Six cases where eviction orders were granted were considered. Of these two were re-housed by the Council.

4—The Demand for Council Houses.

At the beginning of the year the housing list contained some 1,585 applicants but this figure was in need of revision. Subsequently all applicants were circularised, those not returning the application forms were removed from the list and the remainder were qualified according to their circumstances.

The total number of persons desiring to remain on the Housing List was 745 of which 349 applicants had sound reasons for better housing accommodation.

The Housing List as at 31st December, 1959, is shown below and indicates the type of house needed and the Ward distribution:—

See Table attached.

Increase in Demand during 1959.

In spite of allocations during the year the demand increased as follows:—

Number of applicants at beginning of year	...	745
Number of applicants at end of year	...	807

The most acute demand was felt in those categories for 3 bedroomed and aged persons types as most of these cases supported applications from mixed families and elderly persons who had had their names on the list for many years.

5—Housing Sub-Committee.

This Committee composed of five Councillors and Housing Allocations Officer meets monthly to assist in Housing Allocations. During the year 79 cases were discussed and kept under review

Improvement.

No improvement schemes were undertaken.

Slum Clearance.

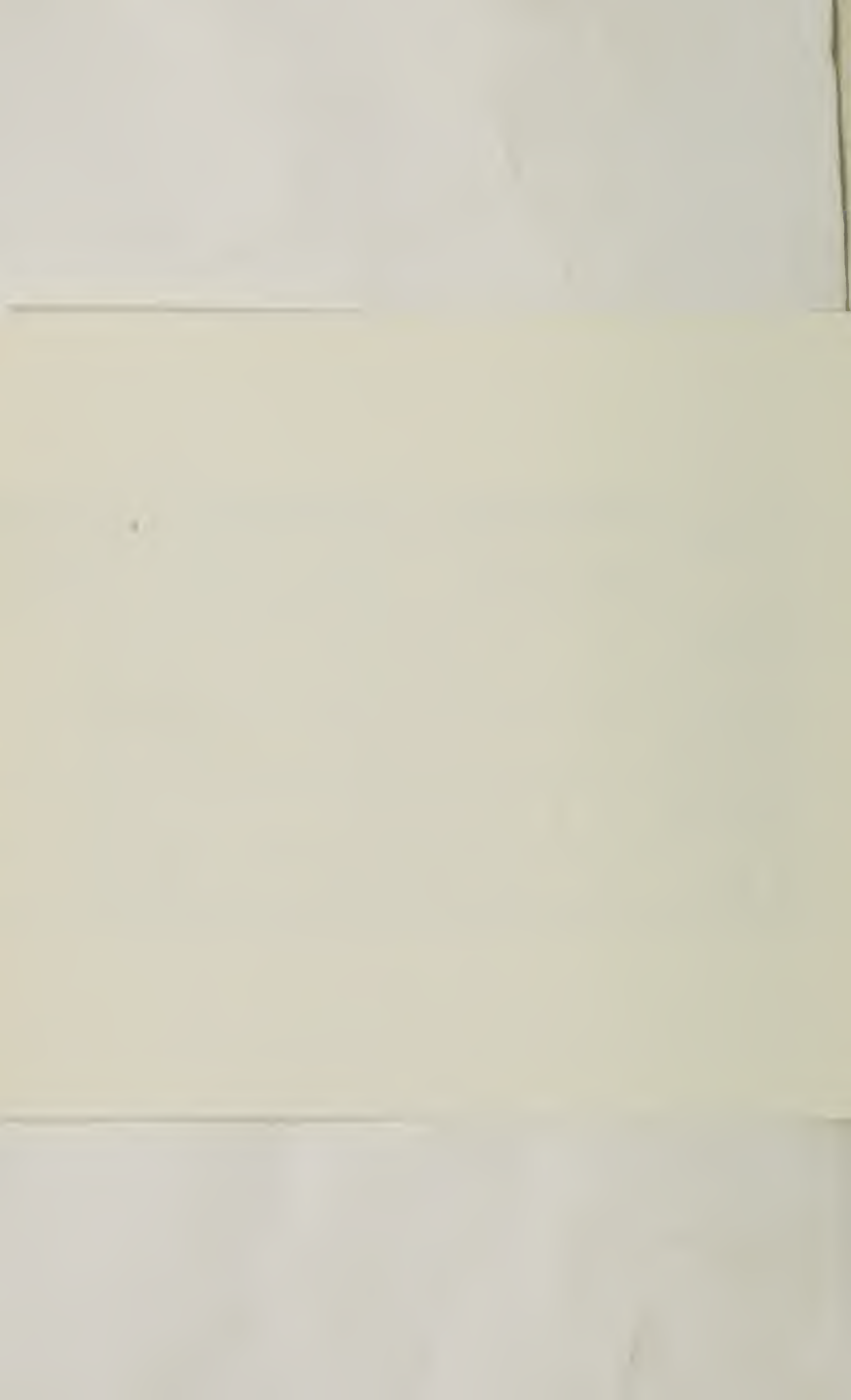
No inquiries were held during 1959, the rehousing of the affected families taking priority.

Number of Families rehoused from Clearance Areas	77
Number of Persons rehoused from Clearance Areas	272
Number of Premises demolished in Clearance Areas	32

Demolition Orders.

Demolition Orders were made in respect of three houses. Five families were rehoused from houses on which Demolition Orders were made in 1958.

WARD	2 Bedroom Type		Total	3 Bedroom Type		Total	4 Bedroom Type		Total	Aged person Type		Total	Single person Type		Total	Total
	Need rehousing	No reason for rehousing		Need rehousing	No reason for rehousing		Need rehousing	No reason for rehousing		Need rehousing	No reason for rehousing		Need rehousing	No reason for rehousing		
Dunston	90	136	226	67	43	110	12	4	16	45	36	81	6	11	17	450
Swalwell	38	55	93	26	14	40	2	0	2	9	6	15	3	3	6	156
Whickham	41	33	74	8	7	15	1	0	1	10	9	19	4	6	10	119
Marley Hill	20	24	44	5	11	16	1	0	1	7	11	18	2	1	3	82
Total	189	248	437	106	75	181	16	4	20	71	62	133	15	21	36	807



SECTION F

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk.

This district is part of a specified area in which milk of special designations only may be sold.

Dairies.

There are no dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949/54.

Dairy Farms.

The supervision of milk production at the 15 dairy farms in the district is exercised by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Distributors.

During 1958 and 1959 the following annual licences for designated milk were issued:—

	1958	1959
Tuberculin Tested Milk Dealers' Licences ...	9	6
Tuberculin Tested Milk Dealers' Supplementary Licences	2	3
Pasteurised Milk Dealers' Licences	13	13
Pasteurised Milk Dealers' Supplementary Licences	2	3
Sterilised Milk Dealers' Licences	53	60
Sterilised Milk Dealers' Supplementary Licences	1	2

Disease from Milk.

No action was necessary under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations of 1949.

Food Sampling.

The Durham County Council are the Food and Drugs Authority for the District and enforce the sampling provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department has kindly furnished the following information.

Number of samples obtained during 1959 — 92.
Articles purchased as under:—

2 Informal	32 Milk.
...	4 Sterilised Milk.
Informal	1 Bread
	1 Beef Sausage
	1 White Pudding
	1 Black Pudding
	1 Lentils
	1 Brown Sugar
	1 Glace Cherries
	1 Mixed Peel
	1 Edinburgh Rock
	1 Mixed Fruit Pastilles
	1 Calcium Lactate Tablets
	2 Glycerine
	1 Glauber Salts
	1 APC Tablets
	1 Halibut Liver Oil Capsules
	1 Pure Malt Vinegar
Informal	1 Butter Beans
	2 Seedless Raisins
	1 Raspberry Jam
	1 Corned Beef
	1 White Pepper
	1 Tapioca
Informal	1 Swiss Roll (Chocolate)
Informal	1 Swiss Roll (Jam)
Informal	1 Meat Pie
Informal	1 Hovis Small Loaf
Informal	1 Fruitie Loaf
Informal	1 Granary Loaf
	2 Ice Cream
	1 Plain Flour
	1 Castor Oil
	1 Cod Liver Oil
Informal	1 Lemon Juice
Informal	1 Raisin Flavoured Cordial
	1 Coffee and Chicory
	1 Bi-carbonate of Soda
	1 Mixed Cereals
	1 Fynnon Salts

	1 Ground Cassia
	1 Ground Mixed Spice
	1 Bronchial Mixture
	1 Cough Syrup
	1 Pork Sausage with Preservative
	1 Beef Sausage with Preservative
	1 Flying Saucers
	1 Bubble Gum
	1 Currants
	1 Sultanas
	1 Dried Peas
	1 Rice
	1 Cocoa
Informal	2 Jubbly Orange Drink

92

A loaf of bread was brought into the Department by a resident of the area. After analysis it was found to contain a tuft of brush-like fibres. Proceedings were instituted, by the Food and Drugs Authority, against the bakery firm concerned, who were fined £25.

Two samples of sterilised milk were taken informally. The bottles were found to have unidentified vegetable and mineral matter adhering to the inside surfaces. Letters of caution were sent to the dairy companies concerned.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

Two slaughter houses, both private, were licensed in the area.

109 visits were made for Meat Inspection purposes.

100% meat inspection was maintained throughout the year.

Meat Condemned During 1959.

All meat condemned is stained green and sent to a local bye-product works.

		Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
Total Number Inspected	...	97	365	108

Meat Condemned, with reasons for condemnation.

Organ	Cause	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
Liver	Liver Fluke	16	8	—
	Tuberculosis	1	—	—
	Cirrhosis	19	—	—
	Abscess	4	—	—
	Milk Spot	—	—	2
Lungs	(A. Lumbricoides)			
	Migratory Fluke	1	—	—
	Abscess	1	—	—
Head	Tuberculosis	1	—	—

One pig carcase and all organs were condemned due to Chronic Erysipelas.

Eight slaughtermen's Licences were issued under the Slaughter of Animals Act for a 12 month period.

Cysticercus Bovis.

One Bovine Head was condemned due to Localised Cysticercus Bovis.

The following foodstuffs were surrendered by traders after being found unfit for human consumption. Disposal is by burial on the Council's tips.

Tins	Tins
51 Beans	3 Apricots
2 Chopped Ham	7 Cherries
5 Tongue ,	14 Mixed Vegetables
31 Corned Beef	7 Grapefruit
45 Processed Peas	5 Pork in Juices
135 Tomatoes	14 Cooked Ham
15 Rice	3 Carrots
33 Pears	2 Vienna Sausages
39 Fruit Salad	2 Stewed Steak
8 Luncheon Meat	9 Salmon
1 Tuna Fish	2 Minced Beef Loaf
32 Baked Beans	52 Pineapples
26 Marrowfat Peas	26 Tomato Soup
18 Garden Peas	1 Evaporated Milk
51 Peaches	18 Oranges
	80 Plums
Jars	Jars
1 Strawberry Jam	3 Beetroot
	1 Honey

Approximate weight of above foodstuffs : 7½ cwts.

Other Foodstuffs.

75½	lbs.	Bacon
4	lbs.	Butter
45	lbs.	Split Peas
60	lbs.	Haddock Fillets
75	lbs.	Hindquarter English Beef

Ice Cream.

There is only one licensed manufacturer in the area.

The factory is a model establishment and complies with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947/52. The product is of high bacteriological standard.

S.16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

There are 59 shops, 2 canteens, 4 cafes, 1 public house, 1 farm premises and 1 hospital, registered for the sale of ice cream.

Food Premises.

Number and Classification.

Public Houses	...	...	23	Cafes	...	...	...	6
Off Licences	...	...	3	Industrial Canteens	...	...	...	10
Grocers' Shops	...	...	29	School Kitchens	...	...	...	5
Wet Fish Shops	...	...	4	Hospital Kitchens	...	...	...	2
General Dealers	...	...	48	Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	22
Confectionery (Sweet) Shops	...	...	12	Bakehouses	...	...	...	3
Confectionery (Cakes) Shops	...	...	8	Fish and Chip Shops	...	...	...	10
Greengrocers	...	...	16	Halls (with catering)	...	...	...	28
Chemists	...	...	7	Social Clubs	...	...	...	8
Egg Packing Station	...	...	1	Institutions	...	...	...	2
Total			247					

Fried Fish Shops.

These shops, 10 in number, are registered under Section 16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Inspection of Food Premises.

282 inspections and re-inspections were made during the year. The hygiene standard in Food Premises remains high.

No prosecutions were taken under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health :

JAMES TAYLOR, O.B.E., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.&H.

Senior Public Health Inspector :

R. W. THIRKELL, Cert. R.S.I.&S.I. Joint Board; Certs of R.S.I. ; Inspector of Meat and Other Foods ; Smoke Inspector ; Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works ; Honours Diploma Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene ; M.A.P.H.I.

Assistant Public Health Inspector :

A. BELL, Cert. R.S.I.&S.I. Joint Board ; Honours Diploma Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene ; M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk :

E. HOWSE.

Rodent Operative and Disinfection Officer :

A. SHORT.

Deputy Rodent Operative and Disinfection Officer :

Vacant.

